

Legislative Fiscal Office 83<sup>rd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to courts.

# Government Unit(s) Affected: Judicial Department

### **Summary of Fiscal Impact**

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Oregon Judicial Department		\$-	\$(17,374,720)	\$-	\$(17,374,720)	(30)	(30.00)
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$-	\$(17,374,720)	\$-	\$(17,374,720)	(30)	(30.00)

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Oregon Judicial Department	\$-	\$-	\$(17,374,720)	\$-	\$(17,374,720)	(30)	(30.00)
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$(17,374,720)	\$ -	\$(17,374,720)	(30)	(30.00)

### **Measure Description**

The measure abolishes the State Court Technology Fund (SCTF) and repeals statutory sources of revenue dedicated to the SCTF, including removing from SCTF from being eligible for an allocation from the Criminal Fine Account (CFA). The measure transfers, on the effective date of the measure, any remaining funds within SCTF to the General Fund to be used for general governmental purposes.

### **Fiscal Analysis**

The estimated fiscal impact to the Oregon Judicial Department is a reduction of \$17 million Other Funds expenditure limitation for the 2025-27 and the 2027-29 biennia.

The SCTF was established by the 2013 Legislature to develop, maintain, and support state court electronic applications and systems, provide electronic access to court service and filings, and public access to those systems. The SCTF is funded through user fee revenues, a percentage of filing fees, and an allocation from the CFA. According to OJD, three out of the four recent biennia the SCTF has experienced revenue shortfalls because the revenue supporting the fund has been insufficient to fully fund SCTF expenditures. These shortfalls have been backfilled by the Legislature with General Fund.

Under the measure, the revenue dedicated to the SCTF would be transferred to the General Fund and there would cease to be any further allocations from the CFA. The fiscal impact to the SCTF would a reduction of \$12.6 million in personal services and 30 positions (30.00 FTE) and \$4.8 million in services and supplies for a combined reduction of \$17.4 million in Other Funds expenditure limitation.

## FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

While the measure is eliminating the SCTF and associated positions, the 2025-27 Chief Justice's Recommended Budget includes a policy option package (POP #125) to retain the positions and change the funding source to General Fund given the decline in SCTF revenue, however, this measure does not include a corresponding General Fund appropriation so the fiscal reflects the elimination of the positions associated with the SCTF. The amount of moneys remaining in the SCTF and available for transfer to the General Fund is indeterminate at this time.

# **Relevant Dates**

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.